

June

Planning and Engineering Newsletter

Department Phone Number: 961-1126

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Chris Lawrence Development Administrator
Lisa Browning Zoning/Housing Inspector

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Darren Coffey Senior Comprehensive Planner
Dan McKinney Comprehensive Planner
Nathalie Neaves Transportation Planner

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Meredith Tremel Town Engineer
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Everett Stowers Utility Inspector
John Garrett Engineering Field Supervisor
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Neighborhood Enhancement:

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David Darnell NEP Inspector

Building/Inspections:

George Williamson Building Official
Cathy Cook Building Inspector
James Higgins Permit Technician
Greg Dudash Property Maintenance Official

GIS:

Katherine Smith GIS Coordinator
Amy Meadows GIS/Cadd Technician
Daniel Porter GIS/Cadd Technician

JUNE MEETINGS

5th Planning Commission - 7:30 p.m. – T.C.
11th Historic District Annual Review – 4 – 6p.m. Police
12th Town Council - 7:30 p.m. – T.C.
14th Long Range Committee-12 p.m.-T.C.C.R.
19th Environmental Quality – 4 p.m. – T.C.C.R.
20th Corridor Committee – 7:30 p.m. – T.C.C.R.
21st Town Gown Community Relations – T.C.C.R.
25th Historic Design Review Board –4:30 pm, T.C.C.R.
26th Town Council - 7:30 p.m. – T.C.
28th Long Range Committee-12 p.m.-T.C.C.R.
T.C. Council Chambers, 2nd Floor

CURRENT PROJECTS

The following rezoning request was submitted:

Ord 1273, 2300 block, Ramble Rd., Hunter's Crossing,
Office zoning to RM-27, multiunit residential zoning.

The following Special Use Permit (SUP) application was submitted:

SUP 01-006, 205 Washington St., E & R Properties,
amendment.

The following Special Use Permit applications were approved:

SUP 01-001, 317 Clay Street., Rengin Holt General
Office use.

SUP 01-004, 307 Roanoke St., Schwartz-Nagley
General Office use.

The following Site Plans (SP) were submitted:

SP 01-010, 3503 Holiday Ln., Hall Property sanitary
sewer extension.

SP 01-011, 3100 block State St., ESS Technologies.

SP 01-012, 1600 block, Tom's Creek Rd., Brookfield
Village water line.

SP 01-013, 317 Clay St., Rengin Holt office conversion.

The following Subdivision was submitted:

SUB 01-014, 200/201 N. Knollwood Dr., Knollwood
Planned Commercial, Lot G.

The following Subdivision Plats were approved:

SUB 99-007, 400 block Wildflower Ln., Northside Park
XI.

SUB 01-007, 2100 block Shadow Lake Rd., Shadow
Lake Village.

Civic Beautification Awards

The civic beautification awards are given annually to recognize landscapes and architectural improvements that enhance the appearance of the Town of Blacksburg. Commercial and industrial businesses, single and multi-family residences, institutions, parking areas and so forth are all eligible for this award. The beautification awards are divided into two categories that include Neighborhood or Block Enhancements, which are special efforts that enhance the appearance of entire blocks or neighborhoods, and the Classic Category, which recognizes the appearance of lawns, gardens, and other landscaping. **Nominations for this award are due July 9, 2001** and nomination forms can be picked up at the Town of Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 South Main Street. Awards will be presented September 13. For additional information contact Dan McKinney at 961-1126.

HUBBARD/SOUTHGATE

ROAD LOCATION

MEETING RESCHEDULED

The Hubbard/Southgate Road Extension Meeting scheduled for May 31st from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m., in the Public Library on Miller Street has been canceled. The meeting will now take place Monday, June 25th from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m., at the Blacksburg Community Center on 725 Patrick Henry Drive. The purpose of this meeting is to provide an opportunity for individuals, civic groups, businesses, and public agencies to review the proposed location for the project and provide comments. Representatives from VDOT and the Town of Blacksburg will be available to answer questions about the project and engineering plans. Displays describing the project location will be available as well.

The Hubbard/Southgate Road Extension Project connects Hubbard Street in the bend in Airport Road, (near the airport) to Southgate Drive on the Virginia Tech campus near its intersection with Tech Center Drive. This is a joint project between the Town of Blacksburg and the Virginia Department of Transportation. It will reroute cut-through traffic from the Airport Acres and Miller South-side neighborhoods to provide a more direct route for campus bound traffic from South Main Street and vice versa. This proposed project includes a grade separated interchange at the intersection of Southgate Drive and Route 460 to improve traffic flow. It will begin at Hubbard Street as a two-lane road and transition to a four-lane road separated by a median before meeting up with Southgate Drive. The proposal provides for a connection to Country Club Drive and a cul-de-sac at Southgate Drive before entering campus from the east and contains a four-foot on-road bike lane as well as a 10' asphalt strip paralleling the road.

For more information please contact Meredith Tremel, Town Engineer at 961-1826. A draft of the road alignment is available for viewing in the Planning and Engineering Department at 300 South Main Street, in Blacksburg.

Comprehensive Plan

Review Schedule

The comprehensive plan is now scheduled for review on the following dates:

June 5 th	Planning Commission receives recommendation and schedules ½ day work session
June 28 th	Planning Commission special work session to review the revised comprehensive plan (12pm – 5pm)
July 31 st	Planning Commission/Town Council joint work session to review proposed plan
August	TBD Town Council refers the proposed Comprehensive Plan to the Planning Commission for final review and recommendation
September 4 th	Planning Commission first reading
October 2 nd	Planning Commission public hearing and action
October 9 th	Town Council first reading
October 30 th	Joint work session, if needed
November 13 th	Town Council public hearing and possible action
November 27 th	Work session, if needed
December 11 th	Town Council action, if needed

Please visit our website:

www.blacksburg.va.us/hottopics, after June 1st, to review the final draft chapters of the proposed 2001 Comprehensive Plan. Questions and comments can be directed to Darren Coffey, Senior Comprehensive Planner, 961-1126.

Property Maintenance Tip

Please be advised that in order for a room to be used as a sleeping area, it must have an egress window. If you do not have a window, and wish to install a new one, the open area of the new window needs to be 5 square feet, and no more than 44 inches off the floor. For more information please call Greg Dudash, Property Maintenance Inspector at 961-1833.

MAY BUILDING PERMITS

New Single Family Homes- 6	\$ 1,000,000
Residential Remodels & Additions-10	\$ 222,547
Commercial Remodels & Additions-1	\$ 10,000

Spotlight on Engineering

Have you ever wondered as you walk, drive, and play through Blacksburg, who manages the streets, sidewalks, bike trails, and walking trails? Who designs the water and sewer systems or the carefully placed ponds, ditches, and curbing that control storm water runoff? These facilities and other parts of Blacksburg's infrastructure are designed and managed in part by the Town's Engineering Division located on the 3rd floor of the Municipal building at 300 S. Main Street. Randy Formica, P.E., Meredith Tremel, P.E., Joel Shrewsbury, Engineering Technician, and Lori Lester, Water Programs Technician, are the people responsible for many of these services. Wearing many hats, these individual's work day may contain bridge inspections, chasing thunder storm activity to evaluate our storm facilities, designing and analyzing traffic control structures, monitoring water quality, and designing and managing improvements in roads, sidewalks, bike paths, trails and utilities. They also manage our water, sewer, and storm water programs, erosion and sediment control program, and evaluate the impact of new development on these systems. Other tasks include street addressing, capital improvements project management, and making sure that new infrastructure construction meets Blacksburg's codes and ordinances. Their work doesn't end at 5 p.m., either, as they participate on many of the Town's committees including Traffic, Corridor, and the Downtown Advisory Group. They also participate regularly on the Town's Long Range committee, Planning Commission, and in Council Workshops. On a regional basis, they represent the Town in meetings of the Water Authority and the Sanitation Authority. Some upcoming engineering projects to keep your eye on this summer include Patrick Henry Drive improvements, Ellett Road sidewalk, Valley View Drive curb and storm water, painting the North Main golf ball water tank, and a new parking lot at Blacksburg Transit. For more information on Blacksburg's Engineering Division visit the Town of Blacksburg web site at www.blacksburg.gov and click on the "departments" square. More information can be found under the Planning and Engineering section.